

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7399
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
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USEEC

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC
SUBJ: EC BARLEY MALT EXPORT RULES

REF: (A) 77 EC A-248; (B) 77 EC BRUSSELS 4865;
(C) 76 EC BRUSSELS 5052

1. AN OFFICIAL IN THE COMMISSION'S GRAIN DIVISION TOLD US
THAT LAST WEEK'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE APPROVED A NUMBER OF
CHANGES IN EC RULES GOVERNING THE EXPORT OF BARLEY MALT.
THESE CHANGES, WHICH ARE AIMED AT TIGHTENING THE EC EXPORT
SYSTEM FOR BARLEY MALT, INCLUDE:

A. AN INCREASE IN THE SURETY DEPOSITS REQUIRED TO
OBTAIN EXPORT LICENSES - FROM 20 TO 25 U.A. FOR LICENSES

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WITH A PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF 11 MONTHS PLUS THE MONTH OF
ISSUANCE, AND FROM 8 TO 10 U.A./MT FOR LICENSES WITH A
PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF 4 MONTHS PLUS THE MONTH OF
ISSUANCE.

B. A REDUCTION IN THE "GRACE PERIOD" PERMITTED EC
EXPORTERS TO DESIGNATE THE DESTINATION OF THE EXPORT FROM
3 MONTHS TO 1 MONTH. EXPORTERS ARE REQUIRED TO SPECIFY

THE COUNTRY OR AREA OF DESTINATION ONLY IN THE CASE OF
LICENSES WITH THE LONGER TERM PERIOD OF VALIDITY.

C. NEW LIMITATIONS ON THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF THE
LONGER TERM LICENSES. WITH RESPECT TO THESE LICENSES,
THE FULL PERIOD OF VALIDITY (11 MONTHS PLUS THE MONTH OF
ISSUANCE) WOULD BE AVAILABLE ONLY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE
MARKETING YEAR -- FROM JULY THROUGH SEPTEMBER, SINCE ALL
LICENSES EXPIRE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER. ALSO, LICENSES
WOULD NOT BE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE MARKETING YEAR
(MAY-JUNE).

2. IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT IN 1976, A CONSIDERABLE
FUROR AROSE OVER THE ALLEGED MISUSE OF EC FUNDS FOR
BARLEY MALT EXPORTS IN 1975/76 (REF C). SINCE THAT TIME
THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN NERVOUS ABOUT THE LONG PERIOD OF
VALIDITY GRANTED FOR MALT EXPORT LICENSES; AT THE SAME
TIME, THEY FEEL THAT THE PECULIAR NATURE OF THE MALT
TRADE REQUIRES THAT THIS POSSIBILITY BE MAINTAINED FOR
EC EXPORTERS. THE CHANGES DESCRIBED IN PARA 1 ARE
AIMED AT REDUCING SOMEWHAT THE LEEWAY PERMITTED EC MALT
EXPORTERS AND THEIR POSSIBILITIES OF WINDFALL GAIN.

3. THE OFFICIAL WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHEN THE ABOVE
CHANGES WOULD ENTER INTO EFFECT. HE THOUGHT THAT SEVERAL
WEEKS MIGHT ELAPSE BEFORE THE COMMISSION FORMALLY
APPROVED THESE CHANGES. MORRIS

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